



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

In re Patent No.	6976044	:
Issue Date:	December 13, 2005	:
Application No.	09944559	:DECISION GRANTING PETITION
Filed:	August 31, 2001	:UNDER 37 CFR 1.378(c)
Attorney Docket No.	3927P016	:

This is a decision on the electronic petition, filed December 23, 2009, under 37 CFR 1.378(c) to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of the 3.5 year maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The maintenance fee is accepted, and the above-identified patent reinstated as of December 23, 2009. This decision also constitutes notice that the fee has been accepted. An electronic copy of the petition and this decision has been created as an entry in the Image File Wrapper. Nevertheless, petitioner should print and retain an independent copy.

Telephone inquiries related to this electronic decision should be directed to the Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197.